

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A side structure of a vehicle comprising:
 - a slide door opening area formed at the side wall of the vehicle,
 - a slide door slidable to freely open and close the slide door opening area,
 - a window opening area formed at the upper portion of the slide door,
 - a window pane elevated and lowered to freely open and close the window opening area, wherein,
 - a rear periphery of the slide door opening area comprises a first rear periphery formed substantially corresponding in position to an area where the window opening area is arranged and a second rear periphery formed below the first rear periphery with respect to the vehicular vertical direction,
 - said first rear periphery being located behind said second rear periphery with respect to the vehicle's longitudinal direction,
 - the slide door is slidable to a fully opened position where a front periphery of the window opening area substantially corresponds in position to said second rear periphery of the slide door opening area,
 - the longitudinal length between said front periphery of the window opening area and said first rear periphery is greater than the longitudinal length between said front periphery of the window opening area and said second rear periphery in ~~the a~~ fully-opened condition of the slide door, and
 - a lower portion of a rear periphery of the slide door substantially corresponding in position to said second rear periphery is located in front of an upper portion substantially corresponding in position to said first rear periphery in ~~the a~~ fully-closed condition of the slide door.

2. (Original) A side structure of a vehicle claimed in claim 1, further comprising a center rail located in vertically intermediate position of the side wall of the vehicle and extending between said second rear periphery and a rear end of the vehicle, and a center roller provided at the slide door and slidably supported by the center rail.

3. (Currently Amended) A side structure of a vehicle claimed in claim 1, further comprising,

a weather-strip attached along the peripheral rear periphery of the slide door opening area, wherein,

the slide door opening area includes in its periphery the rear periphery a connecting portion connected to said first rear periphery at one end and is connected to said second rear periphery at the other end,

said connecting portion is formed to curve down and forward from the position that corresponds in height to the upper periphery of the window pane in the state where the window pane is lowered down to the maximum, toward said second rear periphery, and wherein the weather-strip is disposed so as to extend slantly downward along the shape of said connecting portion.

4. (Currently Amended) A side structure of a vehicle claimed in claim 2, further comprising,

a weather-strip attached along the peripheral rear periphery of the slide door opening area, wherein,

the slide door opening area includes in its the rear periphery a connecting portion connected to the said rear periphery at one end and is connected to said second rear periphery at the other end,

said connecting portion is formed to curve down and forward from the a position that corresponds in height to said upper periphery of the window pane in the state where the window pane is lowered down to the maximum, toward the a position that corresponds in height to the location of the center rail, and wherein the weather-strip is disposed so as to extend slantingly downward along the shape of said connecting portion.